

Ex # 1954

Classification changed from
"CONFIDENTIAL" to "RESTRICTED"
by order of the Secretary of War
By /s/ E. Checket, Major, Inf.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS:
City and County of San Francisco)

[HARRY (NMI) SLATER, JR., Sgt., AUS, AAF, ASN 39286722, Ring Gunner
CFC, age 21 years, address 1476 Forest Avenue, Pasadena, California, being
first sworn deposes and says:

I have completed the 12th Grade in school. I entered the military service of the United States on 2 March 1943 at Arlington, California, was sent overseas 3 May, 1945 and returned from overseas on 3 October 1945.

My plane, a B-29 Superfortress, was shot down in the Tokio area on 25 May 1945 and I was captured and held in custody as a prisoner of war by the Imperial Japanese Government at the following places: Kempi Hq., Tokio, Japan from 27 May 1945 to 15 August 1945; Omori, Japan from 15 August 1945 to 29 August 1945. I did not hold any special office or position in any prisoner organization at any of my places of imprisonment. I do not know the names of any Japanese military or civilian personnel in authority at any of my places of imprisonment.

[A civilian we nicknamed "The Man in the Black Coat" appeared to be in charge of all interrogation at Kempi Prison. He was approximately 5'6" tall, weighed about 150 lbs., was about 45 or 50 years of age, dark hair and wore a small black goatee, mustache and glasses. He spoke excellent English and interrogated most of the American prisoners personally. Fifteen other American prisoners and myself were confined in a small wooden cell approximately 7' x 10' at Kempi and were never allowed out of the cell except during interrogation periods. On about the 1st or 2nd of June 1945 I was taken from the cell, blindfolded and handcuffed, and marched to a small room in the same building for interrogation. I was pushed and roughed up a bit while going to the interrogation room. On arrival there, my blindfold and handcuffs were removed and I was forced to kneel in front of "The Man in the Black Coat", who questioned me for approximately half an hour regarding how our plane was shot down and where we were from. He sat before me at a table and continually struck me on the head with a large bamboo cane while asking questions. When he thought that I was lying he would strike me with a great deal of force about the head and back. I would estimate that I was struck with great force over 50 times during the half-hour period. When the interrogator would tire of beating me, he would hand the cane to an armed guard, who was the only other person in the room, and the guard would proceed to beat me. At the end of this period I was again blindfolded and handcuffed and returned to my cell. I had many large welts on my back about 4 or 5 inches long which were very painful. About half the men in the cell were subjected to the same treatment.

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RESTRICTED /s/ E. C.

/s/ H S Jr.

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RESTRICTED /s/ E.C.

A cellmate, S/Sgt "Red" McQuade, a B-29 gunner from New Mexico, was in a great deal of pain as the result of severe burns on the back of his legs and rectum caused when his plane was shot down. McQuade was unable to stand or walk and his legs were discolored and the odor of the burned flesh was almost unbearable. We repeatedly requested medical attention for McQuade and on one occasion a Japanese doctor examined his injuries but he was never given any medical attention. On or about 28 June 1945, the Japanese guard told us that they would take McQuade out of the cell for medical treatment. Instead of being taken to a hospital, McQuade was forced to walk into the interrogation room and he later reported to us that he was questioned at some length and was slapped and struck several times by the interrogators. We learned that two American prisoners in the cell next to ours had compound leg fractures but were never given any medical attention. Our food at Kempf consisted of 3 balls of steamed Korean rice per man per day. The balls of rice were approximately the size of the average fist. On rare occasions we received a small supply of cooked or uncooked vegetable greens and toward the end of our imprisonment we received a little thin soup. Each man received one small cup of water 3 times a day. We were issued 11 thin blankets for 16 men. The Japanese guards took away our shoes and socks and a few other articles of clothing. We observed through our cell window that the pigs immediately outside the cell were furnished better food than the American prisoners. The latrine facilities in our cell consisted of a small block of cement about 3' x 4' with a hole in the center leading to the outside.

The following men were cellmates of mine in Kempf Prison:

Sgt. James Evans, B-29, CFC Gunner; home address, Box #1, Hanley, West Virginia.

Sgt. John Ryan, B-29, CFC Gunner; home state, Massachusetts.

Capt. Boyington, B-29 Pilot; home address Kalamazoo, Mich.

2nd Lt. William McCall, B-29 Co-pilot; home address, Chicago, Illinois.

I do not now recall the names of any enemy officer or personnel not heretofore mentioned who were immediately involved in this incident.

/s/ Harry Slater Jr.
HARRY (NMI) SLATER, JR., Sgt
ASN 39286722

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of October, 1945.

Interviewed by George G. Barker,
Special Agent, SIC, 9 Oct. 1945

/s/ Charles E. Taylor
Capt. JAGB.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Everett Checket
EVERETT CHECKET
Major, Infantry

X X X X X X X
Restricted /s/ E.C.

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書類第八六三号

アリスレタ、三三軍曹米國陸軍航空部隊認識番号
元六六七二飛行機砲手 CFC

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私飛行機B-1九九ノノ上込東京地区ノ九四五年八月十日
擊墜サレシ。ソニテ私ハ日本官憲心ヨシテ捕ハシ左記場所ニ
捕虜トシテ監禁サレマシ。即テ九四五年五月七日ヨリ九四五年
八月十五日ア日本東京憲兵司令部ニ、元四五年八月十五日ヨリ
元五八年八月七日ア日本大森監禁サレマシ。

× × ×
黒衣人ト科連が呼シガ民眞人が憲兵監獄テ凡テ訊向
吾学了屋様ニ見エタ。

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彼、之派方英語ヲ詰シ、アメリカ、捕虜大部令ヲ直無訊向
シ。他十五名、アメリカ捕虜ト私ハ憲兵隊約長サ十呎幅
七呎、木造ト形監房ニ監禁サレテ訊向時向外外出ヲ許
サセケタ。九四五年六月一日カ一月頃サセテ手錠ヲ附シテ
テ監房カラ車レサセテ訊向為向津物中、小サナ部
屋運行カセマシ。其、訊向御屋三行ク途中幾ラカ
衡イタリ手荒取扱ラセケタ。其處介着ノ私、且隣心ヤ手錠
除カレ黒衣人前ニ跪カセテ約半時向如何様ニ科連
飛行機撃墜サレ處カラ未タカラ言葉不ラシタ。彼、私前
机三座ツテ居テ絶エス訊向中私、頭ヲ大キイ竹枝テ破リ
ク。私が壊ラ言学牛ト思ツク時、彼ハビク頭ヤ背中

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並テ打ツテヤツ。私は標示ハ五丁以上半時間同打タ
レタルビマス。彼、訊向在が私ヲ打ツラ歟キタ時其公部屋ニ
居タ他唯一人アツカハ其衣ヲ徧兵ニシテ杖ヲ渡シ其徧
兵ハ私ヲ打テ始メルテアツク之が終ヒト私ハ又自隱ヨサシ
手銃ヲ附キテ私監房ニ帰セタ。私ハ皆中三約四時が
経過、ミミツツハ澤山本シテソシガ非常ニ痛シ。
某監房ノ約半數者ガ同様、取扱ヒテタ。監房仲
向テ本邦防軍著可シドマツキトドク言フミニキニ忠身
ノB射手彼飛行機が轟墜キタ時臺キテ脚に裏側ヤ
直腸、酷火傷結果非常ニ苦シカマツキテ不トハシツ
コモ歩ムコモ虫本シテ彼、脚々多色ニテ火傷肉ハ殆ド
甚今テ又程復かシ。私達ハ幾度モマツキテ不トハシツ
ヨアタ。或時一人日本、醫師が彼、信物着テ忠身タガ
何等治療ナガム、吳子カヌ。廿五年六月三十日忠身其時
日本、衛兵がマツキテ不トハシツ治療多シ監房ニ連シテ不ト
詣シタ、病院連シ行ク代リ同ツクヨリドハ訊向在部屋ニテ
行カセタ。彼ハアノ時相時向在數回反テ訊向在
カテ拳手テ打ツタリ叩カセタ後テナシテカツ私童ニ知ラセタ
私童ハ薦監房、不アメリカ捕虜ハ脚三複雜骨折頗
テ左脛が決シテ何等、治療キテ今シナカツタ事ヲ知ラ。
忠身公隊テ子乞タ忠童、食物炊イタ朝鮮米、握飯
一人一日命シテ三回タテアツクソ、握飯ハ約普通
奉仕太ササガタ。

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稀少少量料理三又八生野菜を食ケタ。私達、其の後
が近々夕食私達少少量、漬汁を食ケタ。各人一日三回小
サイコップ一杯、水を食ケタ。私達八十人三十五人故に漬
毛布が子へラシ。日本人衛兵へ私達靴下靴下や衣類
ヲ持テ去ッタ。私達、監房、外近キニタ豚アリカ捕虜ヨリ
良き食物與合乙チヰが監房、窓心を通ニテ見ラシタ。
監房内、便所、設備トニテ少サセメント作ラタ長サ
四呪櫃三呪位モテ置キ六がアツテ外部ニ通シテヰタ。

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